

## **A STUDY OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN INDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT :**

India is a nation of worshipped goddesses, but it is also a place where crimes against women, including harassment and sexual assault, may be found. Human rights were formerly conceptualised without considering the experiences of women in terms of violence, criminality, discrimination and coercion. In the past, women were subject to several restrictions due to societal conventions and customs, especially in male-dominated societies. The human rights framework has evolved and been modified to better protect women by summarising the gender-specific aspects of human rights abuses, thanks in large part to the efforts of human rights mechanisms, States, and campaigners. A thorough awareness of the underlying societal structures and power dynamics that both define and promote women's capacity to exercise their human rights is necessary for the effective protection of women's human rights. The legal system, politics, social and economic policies, family and community life, education, training, skill development and the ability to find work are all impacted by these power systems.

**Keywords:** Women, Empowerment, Rights, Violations, Education, Development.

### **INTRODUCTION :**

An obtaining gender equality and eradicating all forms of discrimination against women are essential human rights and United Nations principles. Women all around the globe, however, frequently face abuses of their human rights throughout their lives, and women's rights have not always been prioritised. A full understanding of the manner in which women are discriminated against and denied equality is required in order to establish suitable policies and norms to remove such discrimination. Some women face extra types of discrimination because of their age, race, nationality, religion, health, marital status, education, handicap and socioeconomic position. When developing measures and strategies to address discrimination against women, all interconnected kinds of discrimination must be considered. Combating biased treatment is critical for women's advancement. Aside from this, women's rights should be prioritised and promoted for successful implementation.<sup>1</sup>

In today's society, women play a vital role. They are viewed as main sources of raising and nurturing the family. Despite the fact that women's contributions to the advancement of the country are comparable to those of men, they face a variety of constraints that prevent them from reaching their full potential. Against this backdrop, governments all over the world felt compelled to prioritise the needs and interests of women, recognise their contributions at various stages, and overcome hurdles that would arise over the course of their empowerment. The word 'women's empowerment' refers to a woman's ability to make all critical decisions about herself on her own, throughout her life, which will lead to her success in all aspects of life.

### **EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN :**

In today's world, empowerment has become one of the most comprehensively used expressions to describe women's growth and development. Women's organisations, non-governmental development

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<sup>1</sup>DR. G.B. Reddy's, *Women & The Law including Law Relating to Children* (Lex Worth, Gogia Law Publication, 10<sup>th</sup>edu., 2021).

organisations, activists, politicians, governments and international organisations all list empowerment as one of their primary goals. Empowerment raises women's awareness and comprehension of programmes, initiatives, measures, strategies, policies, and norms. It is seen as a project that most people go through, which finally leads to changes and transformations. Empowerment is defined as a process of changing the distribution of power in individual relationships as well as in institutions throughout society. Another definition is the process of obtaining, supplying, bestowing resources and means or granting access to authority over such resources and means. Given the foregoing, the word is more pertinent to marginalised groups, the impoverished, illiterates, indigenous communities and women who are fighting for their rights in society.<sup>2</sup>

Empowerment is a complicated concept with various meanings in social, economic, cultural and political contexts. With women's empowerment, they began to gain understanding of a number of areas, such as participation in decision-making processes; domestic work should be performed by both males and females, not just females by themselves; women should take control of reproductive functions and decide on the size of the family; women should be allowed to spend the income she has earned according to her own needs and desires; working women should value and take pleasure in their jobs. Existence of women's organisations, allocation of funds to women and women projects, increase in the number of women leaders in village, district, provincial and national levels, involvement of women in the design, strategy, development and application of technology, participation in community programmes, productive enterprises, politics and arts, involvement of women in the design, strategy, development and application of technology These are, at the national level, understanding of social and political rights, inclusion of women in the overall national development plan, the existence of women's networks and publications and the extent to which women are publicly visible and acknowledged.

Many factors contribute to women's empowerment, including the formation of women's organisations, the availability of support systems for women, the availability of women-specific data and other pertinent information, the availability of funds, feminist leadership, networking, positive media coverage, a constructive policy climate, the promotion of education and skill development among them, assisting them in standing up for themselves, and encouraging them to achieve employment. On the other hand, factors that limit women's empowerment include work pressure, isolation of women from each other and the community, low education or lack of literacy skills, traditional viewpoints that limit women's participation in various functions and events, a lack of finances, the occurrence of conflicts, disputes, wars, internal strife, and militarization, unstructured policies and disagreements, a policy environment that promotes discrimination, and a policy environment that promotes discrimination.

### **VIOLATIONS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS:**

**Dowry Deaths** - There has been a rise in the dowry deaths of women in married families in India. Dowry disputes have become a significant issue. Dowry taking and giving is considered a felony in the country. The Dowry Prohibition Act has not been implemented appropriately in India. It has been established that the majority of states do not have Dowry Prohibition Officers and do not make it essential to keep a record of what is given and received.<sup>3</sup>

**Domestic Violence** - Despite the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act of 2005, domestic violence is still prevalent in India. Domestic violence occurs when a woman is subjected to violent and criminal activities by her husbands, in-laws, dads, siblings or other family members. These include verbal and physical abuse, as well as other types of mistreatments. Inability to carry

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.niti.gov.in/empowerment-women-through-education-skilling-micro-financing> (Last Modified September 26, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> DR. G.B. Reddy's, *Women & The Law including Law Relating to Children* (Lex Worth, Gogia Law Publication, 10<sup>th</sup>edu., 2021).

out household tasks in an appropriate manner, financial problems, desire for a male child, women's unawareness and illiteracy, experiencing problems in meeting essential needs and requirements, health problems and feelings of antagonism and resentment are all reasons for women experiencing domestic violence within their marital homes.

**Women and girls are missing** - When the number of women in the population is low in comparison to men, the expression 'missing women' has been used in many developing nations. Women and girls go missing in numerous Indian states. One of the biggest causes of their disappearance is human trafficking. When girls are trafficked, they are severely abused and denied food and other essentials. Brokers sell girls from impoverished families to males in northern India, where the problem of an unequal gender ratio is quite visible. Furthermore, there have been reports of women going missing from their marital houses. Violence and illegal crimes committed against women inside the house and outside. More than 13.13 lakh girls and women went missing in the country in the three years between 2019 and 2021, with Madhya Pradesh accounting for the highest at nearly two lakhs, closely followed by West Bengal. According to the Union Home Ministry data, tabled in Parliament last week, 10,61,648 women above 18 years and 2,51,430 girls below that age were missing between 2019 and 2021 across the country.<sup>4</sup>

**Child Marriage** - Child marriage occurs when females marry when they are under the age of 18 and guys marry when they are under the age of 21. Child marriage is considered a practice that robs girls of their youth. They have difficulties acquiring an education, enrolling in school, participating in other children's activities and improving their skills and talents. It also has a detrimental impact on the child's social, psychological and emotional development. When female children see domestic violence in their married families, they feel defenseless and fearful. The Child Marriage Act of 2006 forbids child marriage and sets the marriageable age for girls at 18 and for boys at 21.

**Female Foeticide and Female Infanticide** - Female foeticide refers to the death of a girl child before birth, whilst female infanticide refers to the killing of a girl kid after birth. These practices deprive the girl child of her most basic right, namely the right to life. There are communities of people that have a strong preference for male offspring. They had the belief that families with male children should be regarded with pride when they hold a big portion of the land. They saw women as liabilities who would not provide riches for their families.

**Sexual Harassment in the Workplace** - The occurrence of sexual harassment in the workplace is regarded as the most negative problem that imposes hurdles in the course of their advancement. Women face wage and payment discrimination in India. This is true for both urban and rural locations; they are mistreated in terms of promotion and progress in the workplace. Women entrepreneurs sometimes face additional challenges in collecting funds and resources to start any type of business. Sexual harassment at work disrupts a woman's psychological approach. She even feels obliged to quit her job, despite the fact that she is not financially secure and is in need of work.<sup>5</sup>

**Societal Violence Against Women** - In most parts of India, communities and societies are linked up with patriarchal normative structures. Women find it harder to establish their place and get justice in these communities. Religious communities, village communities and artificial communities such as professional entities are hardly the ultimate of gender equality. Religious groups have frequently made women's lives unpleasant by pressuring them to follow rigid practices that have harmful consequences. Because of the prevalence of social abuse, women are typically restricted within their houses and separated from the outside world. They are expected to limit their interactions with members of society.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/1313-lakh-girls-women-went-missing-between-2019-and-2021-govt-data/article67138563.ece> (Last Modified October 07, 2024).

<sup>5</sup> <https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Handbook%20on%20Sexual%20Harassment%20of%20Women%20at%20Workplace.pdf> (Last Modified October 01, 2024).

<sup>6</sup> DR. G.B. Reddy's, *Women & The Law including Law Relating to Children* (Lex Worth, Gogia Law Publication, 10<sup>th</sup>edu., 2021).

**FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS TO UPLIFT THE STATUS OF WOMEN :**

- According to Article 14 of the Indian Constitution, "all individuals, including women, are equal in the eyes of the law, and they are also entitled to equal protection of the laws within India's territorial jurisdiction." It means that all people, regardless of gender, should be treated equally in identical situations. The State should not discriminate against one individual over another, and the law should be applied equally.<sup>7</sup>
- Article 15 of the Indian Constitution deals with the prohibition of discrimination. It forbids the state from discriminating against any person, including women, on the basis of race, caste, gender, ethnicity, religion, place of birth, or socioeconomic background. It stipulates that all citizens have the right to equal access to businesses, hotels, restaurants, banks, infrastructure, public areas, and so on. However, the state has the authority to establish special provisions for women and children, as well as for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other underprivileged groups.
- According to Article 16 of the Indian Constitution, all individuals, including women, would have equal access to public job opportunities regardless of their gender, colour, caste, ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic background. There are several exceptions, for example, Parliament may specify by legislation that residence inside the state is essential for a specific job. The State has the authority to reserve specific positions for backward classes as well as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, and appointments in religious organisations may be reserved for members of that religion.
- According to Article 19 of the Indian Constitution, every citizen, including women, has the right to free speech and expression, the right to assemble peacefully and without arms, the right to form unions or associations, the right to move freely throughout the country, the right to reside or settle in any part of the country, and the right to practise any profession or carry on any lawful trade or business in accordance with one's own aspirations.
- To provide assistance to women accused - According to Article 20 of the Indian Constitution, no person, including women, shall be convicted of any offence except a violation of a law, and no person shall be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once, nor shall any person be accused of any offence and compelled to be a witness against himself or herself.
- According to Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, "no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty except in accordance with the procedure established by law." This right to life encompasses the right to live with dignity, the right to privacy, and so on. Domestic abuse against women violates Article 21 of the Indian Constitution by undermining the self-esteem and dignity of the victims.<sup>8</sup>
- To combat immoral trafficking in women and girls, Article 23 of the Indian Constitution prohibits human trafficking and forced labour. In accordance with this Article, Parliament passed the Suppression of Immoral Trafficking in Women and Girls Act, 1956, which has since been renamed the Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act 1956, to penalise activities that result in human trafficking.<sup>9</sup>
- To prevent child work, particularly for girls, as per Article 24 of the Indian Constitution - Employment of children under the age of fourteen in a factory or mine, or in any other dangerous occupation, is forbidden.
- According to Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, "all persons, including women, are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to profess, practise, and propagate religion."

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<sup>7</sup>D.D. BASU, *Introduction to The Constitution of India* (Lexis Nexis, 24<sup>th</sup> edn., 2019).

<sup>8</sup>M P Jain, *Indian Constitutional Law* (Lexis Nexis, 8<sup>th</sup> edn., 2018).

<sup>9</sup>D.D. BASU, *Introduction to The Constitution of India* (Lexis Nexis, 24<sup>th</sup> edn., 2019).

### **LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR WOMEN AND WORK:**

#### **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, Redressal) Act, 2013:**

Millions of Indian women are now entering the workforce as a result of greater access to education and jobs. On a daily basis, many working women suffer sexual harassment at work. As a result, it is critical that we fight as a society to eliminate workplace sexual harassment since women have the right to work in a safe and secure atmosphere. Every company is responsible for ensuring the safety of women at work and increasing their involvement. This would help them realise their right to gender equality, resulting in economic development and inclusive growth that will benefit the entire country.<sup>10</sup>

**The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006** - The national legislation against child marriage, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, does not allow the question of consent in the case of minors and treats child marriage as a penal violation. However, by ruling some marriages invalid and others voidable, it generates confusion. A minor's marriage that is formalised by the use of force, fraud, deceit, inducement, selling and buying, or trafficking is void, but all other child marriages are voidable at the decision of the parties to the marriage and thus legal marriages until they are annulled by the court.<sup>11</sup>

**The Maternity Benefits Act of 1961** provides a woman with 12 weeks of paid leave following the birth of a child, but there is no adoption benefit. It is illegal for an employer to fire or suspend a woman while she is on maternity leave. A woman worker must be allowed to take two breastfeeding breaks in addition to regular breaks until her kid reaches the age of 15 months.

**Equal Remuneration Act of 1976** - This legislation prohibits gender discrimination in compensation, employment, promotion, or training; however, it may be avoided by reclassifying skilled and unskilled workers' salaries. Women are frequently classified in the unskilled, lower salary group, regardless of the nature or skill level of a job, whereas males are placed in the skilled, higher wage category. The Act mandates equal remuneration for men and women performing the same or equivalent employment.<sup>12</sup>

### **GOVERNMENT SCHEMES FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT :**

**Women Reservation Act 2023:** In The Indian Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023 or the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam provide 33 per cent reservation to women in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. Attempts to create a quota for women have been ongoing since the mid-1990s. In March 2010, Rajya Sabha passed the Constitution (One Hundred and Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2008, but the legislation was not taken up by Lok Sabha. Finally, Women Reservation Bill was passed by both House of Parliament in 2023. The President of India has given assent to the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act 2023, which provides one third reservation for women in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.<sup>13</sup>

**Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana:** The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a Centrally Sponsored Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme that will be implemented across the country on January 1, 2017. The maternity benefit under PMMVY is available to all Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM), with the exception of PW&LM who are in regular employment with the Central Government, State Governments, or Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), or who are in receipt of similar benefits under any law in force at the time. The plan

<sup>10</sup><https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Handbook%20on%20Sexual%20Harassment%20of%20Women%20at%20Workplace.pdf> (Last Modified October 07, 2024).

<sup>11</sup> DR. G.B. Reddy's, *Women & The Law including Law Relating to Children* (Lex Worth, Gogia Law Publication, 10<sup>th</sup> edn., 2021).

<sup>12</sup>D.D. BASU, *Introduction to The Constitution of India* (Lexis Nexis, 24<sup>th</sup> edn., 2019).

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/president-grants-assent-to-women-reservation-bill> (Last Modified October 02, 2024).



provides Rs.5,000/- in three payments to eligible beneficiaries throughout pregnancy and breastfeeding in response to individuals meeting specific nutrition and health seeking parameters.<sup>14</sup>

**Mahila E-Haat:** On March 7, 2016, the Ministry of Women and Child Development had launched the multilingual portal Mahila E-Haat. This is a one-of-a-kind direct web marketing platform that leverages technology to help women entrepreneurs or Self-Help Groups or Non-Government Organisations showcase the items and services that they make, produce, or execute. It is a project aimed at satisfying the goals and requirements of women.<sup>15</sup>

**Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP):** On January 22, 2015, the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was established with the goal of addressing falling Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related concerns of empowerment of girls and women across the life cycle continuum. The scheme's goals are to avoid gender-biased sex selective elimination, to secure the survival and protection of the girl child, and to ensure the female child's education and participation. The scheme's primary components include a nationwide media and advocacy campaign as well as multi-sectoral intervention in chosen districts.<sup>16</sup>

**Women's Reservation in Local Self-Government:** The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts, approved by Parliament in 1992, guarantee one-third of all elected seats in local governments, whether Panchayats or Municipalities to women.<sup>17</sup>

### **SDG GOAL 5: ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY: INDIA'S STATUS :**

There are numerous targets to be met under SDG Goal 5 to achieve gender equality by 2030, and they are as follows: -<sup>18</sup>

**Target 1:** Eliminate all types of prejudice against women and girls worldwide.

**Target 2:** Eliminate all forms of public and private violence against women and girls, including trafficking and sexual and other forms of exploitation.

**Target 3:** Get rid of all harmful practises such child marriage, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation.

**Target 4:** Recognise and reward unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure, and social protection programmes, as well as the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and family, as appropriate at the national level.

**Target 5:** Ensure women's full and effective involvement in political, economic, and public life, as well as equitable opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making.

**Target 6:** Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in line with the International Conference on Population and Development's Programme of Action and the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as the conclusion papers of their review conferences.

**Target 7:** Implement measures to ensure that women have equal access to economic resources, including ownership and management of land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance, and natural resources, in conformity with national laws.

**Target 8:** Increase the use of enabling technology, including information and communications technology, to support women's empowerment.

**Target 9:** Adopt and enhance solid policies and enforced laws at all levels to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

### **ROLE OF JUDICIARY :**

<sup>14</sup> <https://web.umang.gov.in/landing/department/pmmvy.html> (Last Modified September 30,2024).

<sup>15</sup> <https://wcd.nic.in/gallery/launching-mahila-e-haat-dated-07032016> (Last Modified September 29, 2024).

<sup>16</sup> <http://wcd.nic.in/schemes/beti-bachao-beti-padhao-scheme> (Last Modified September 29, 2024).

<sup>17</sup> <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-law/73-74-amendment-reservation-women-elected-bodies> respectively (Last Modified October 01, 2024).

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.unadap.org/post/india-s-stance-on-sdg-5-gender-equality> (Last Modified September 30, 2024).

1. *X v. Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Govt of NCT Delhi and Another*,<sup>19</sup> in this case, the Supreme Court granted unmarried women the right to abortion.

"The rights of reproductive autonomy, dignity, and privacy under Article 21 gives an unmarried woman the right of choice on whether or not to bear a child, on a similar footing of a married woman." In this case, a 25-year-old unmarried lady petitioned the Delhi High Court to abort a 23-week pregnancy arising from a consensual relationship since she was unmarried. The Delhi High Court, however, denied her request, citing that the Court could not go beyond the Statute because Rule 3B of the MRTP Rules, 2003 prohibited unmarried women from applying. The women then went to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court emphasised that the High Court had a restricted perspective in this issue and omitted to examine the 2021 Amendment to the MTP Act. According to the Court, the phrase 'married woman' was substituted by 'any woman,' and the word 'husband' was replaced by 'partner under Section 3 of the MTP Act.' However, there is an obvious gap in the law: while Section 3 goes beyond conventional marriage-based relationships, Rule 3B of the MTP Rules fails to consider unmarried women but recognises other categories of women such as divorcees, widows, minors, disabled and mentally ill women, and survivors of sexual assault or rape.

2. *State of Jharkhand v. Shailendra Kumar Rai*,<sup>20</sup> in this case the Supreme Court prohibiting the Two-Finger Test. 'There is no scientific basis for the two-finger test. It, on the other hand, re-victimizes and re-traumatizes women.' The Supreme Court upheld the 2013 case of *Lilla v. State of Haryana*, ruling that the two-finger test violates a woman's right to privacy. However, the test was still performed and so the Court in the current case concluded that if anybody performs a two-finger test on a sexual assault victim, it would be viewed as a misconduct offence and will be penalised accordingly. The Court stated that 'the two-finger test shall not be performed. The test is predicated on the false premise that a sexually active woman cannot be raped. Nothing could be farther from the truth; it is patriarchal and sexist to suggest that a woman cannot be believed when she claims she was raped just because she is sexually active.'

3. *Budhadev Karmaskar v. State of West Bengal*,<sup>21</sup> in this case the Supreme Court recognised sex work as a 'profession' and ruled that consenting sex workers were entitled to dignity and equal legal protection. The Court also asked UIDAI to grant Adhar Cards to Sex Workers based on a proforma certificate and exercising its inherent powers under Article 142 of the Constitution gave a few instructions for sex workers' rehabilitation, such as-

- If a brothel is raided, the sex workers involved should not be detained, penalised, harassed, or victimised.
- Police officers should treat all sex workers with respect and not verbally or physically abuse them, subject them to violence or compel them into any sexual activity.
- The Press Council of India should set suitable guidelines to ensure that the identity of sex workers arrested, raided and rescued are not published or broadcast.
- Measures taken by sex workers for their health and safety (e.g., use of condoms, etc.) shall not be understood as offences or used as proof of an offence.
- Both governments will hold workshops to educate sex workers about their rights.

4. *Shayara Bano v. Union of India*,<sup>22</sup> in this Supreme Court ruled by a 3:2 majority that the practise of triple talaq (talaq-e-biddat) was illegal. On July 30, 2019, the Indian parliament enacted the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019, which proclaimed triple talaq to be unlawful, unconstitutional and punishable beginning August 1, 2019. The courts have finally

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<sup>19</sup> *X v. Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Govt of NCT Delhi and Another*, AIR 2022 Online SC 1321.

<sup>20</sup> *State of Jharkhand v. Shailendra Kumar Rai*, AIR 2022 Sc Online Sc 1494.

<sup>21</sup> *Budhadev Karmaskar v. State of West Bengal*, AIR 2022 SCC Online SC 704.

<sup>22</sup> *Shayara Bano v. Union of India* (2017) 9 SCC 1.

delivered justice to the women who were victims of Triple Talaq. The court has established that the concepts of equality and particularly gender equality are more than just academic ideologies.

5. *Vishaka Sawhney v. State of Rajasthan*,<sup>23</sup> this case is a well-known instance that serves as a wake-up call for the necessity for such legislation to protect women from sexual harassment at work. In this momentous decision, the Supreme Court ruled that sexual harassment at work is a violation of Articles 15 and 21 of the Constitution and he outlined comprehensive rules to avoid sexual harassment of working women in workplaces until a law is created to address the issue. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, And Redressal) Act, 2013 was approved by the Indian parliament.

#### **CONCLUSION :**

The primary goal of this research paper is to get a knowledge of women's rights. The fundamental reason that women's rights have been eroded is the existence of patriarchal culture. Male offspring were given precedence in a male-dominated culture and female foeticide and female infanticide were practises. Females were viewed as liabilities who would incur expenses, whilst males were viewed as assets who would earn riches for their families. Males had decision-making power as well as other powers and authorities. Females' roles were confined to conducting home chores, child development, and caring for family members. Women's rights are now recognised as a result of modernization and the application of creative ways. Girls and women from all walks of life are enrolling in educational institutions. Women are rising professionals in fields such as medicine, law, education, management, and administration. Girls from minority communities are enrolling in educational institutions to learn how to use their rights for the sake of their parents and the community. Education teaches people how to distinguish between what is proper and what is not, how to make intelligent judgements, how to work for the good of the society and how to use their rights effectively.

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<sup>23</sup>*Vishaka Sawhney v. State of Rajasthan*, AIR 1997 SC 3011.